international agencies like National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) of USA may be using internet in the International Space Station (ISS) in Low Earth Orbit.

(c) India is not making any efforts in this direction, at present.

(d) No, Sir. India does not receive data from Space shuttle.

(e) and (f) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is a Research and Development Organisation under Department of Space and there are about 6000 Engineer/Scientists working in various fields of Space Research, Technology and Applications.

MPLADS

1144. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether insisting on the guidelines of 15 per cent and 7.5 per cent for SC/ST, respectively huge sums of money under MPLADS are lying without being spent;

(b) whether Government is aware of it; and

(c) whether there would be a rethinking on this issue and revision of the guidelines in such a way that the percentage of funds can be used for the benefit of SC/ST people without insisting on villages exclusively inhabited by SC/ST people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) to (c) The provision for Members of Parliament to recommend works for the development of areas inhabited by SC/ST was introduced for the first time in the Guidelines when it was revised in November, 2005. The district authorities are responsible for enforcing these provisions relating to the SC and ST areas. The district authorities also are instructed from time to time by the Ministry to enforce these provisions. The Ministry has not received any information relating to huge sums for SC/ST areas lying unspent with the district authorities.

MPLADS

1145. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the mechanism to inspect quality of assets created by utilizing Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) funds;

(b) the actions that are taken in the cases where irregularities are found; and

(c) the reasons for actions not being taken against concerned officials in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) is administered through a set of Guidelines which